

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04764 261029Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7033

UNCLAS BELGRADE 4764

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN, YO
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE KABASHI CASE

REF: (A) BELGRADE 4636, (B) MAY 15 LTR FROM BRADFORD
J. BROWN TO EUR/EX FROMOWITZ/JOHNSON, (C) BROWN/
NATHNESS TELECON

1. MS. SANIJE KABASHI CAME TO EMBASSY ON SATURDAY JUNE 24 WITH CHILDREN, BROTHER, BROTHER-IN-LAW, AND MOTHER TO INQUIRE ABOUT FLIGHT TO U.S. TO PARTICIPATE IN TRIAL OF QUAZIM KABASHI FOR MURDER OF HER HUSBAND, NAZIR KABASHI. MS. KABASHI HAD RECEIVED CABLE DIRECTLY FROM BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY ADVISING SHE SHOULD BE PREPARED DEPART FOR U.S. SOMETIME AFTER JUNE 22. UNDERSTANDING THAT TRIAL DATE WAS SET FOR JUNE 26, SHE ACCORDINGLY CAME TO EMBASSY TO INQUIRE RE FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS (THOUGH CABLE SPECIFIED SHE WHOULD BE ADVISED OF FURTHER DETAILS VIA DIRECT CABLE FROM U.S.). EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED TELEX FROM BRONX D.A. SPECIFYING JUNE 26 AS TRIAL DATE. NEITHER JAT NOR PANAM HAD ANY RECORD OF PRE-PAID TICKET FOR KABASHI.

2. CONOFF UNABLE TO REACH BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY TRIAL PREPARATION ASSISTANT BRADFORD J. BROWN OR ALBANIAN SPEAKING N.Y.C. POLICE OFFICER PETAR VATAJ, WHO IS INVOLVED WITH CASE.

3. KABASHI FAMILY HAS NOW RETURNED TO PEC TO AWAIT FURTHER
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INSTRUCTIONS AND WILL CALL EMBASSY TO CONFIRM ANY INSTRUCTIONS THEY RECEIVE FROM U.S. GIVEN COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN DIRECT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN BRONX D.A. AND KABASHI, REQUEST DEPARTMENT ASK D.A.'S OFFICE TO SEND US COPIES OF ALL CABLE ADDRESSED TO KABASHI (WITH TRANSLATIONS, ASSUMING THEY ARE IN ALBANIAN) SO THAT WE WILL BE IN POSITION TO ADVISE THEM REGARDING MEANING OF INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED.

THEY WILL CONTACT EMBASSY WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 IF THEY HAVE NOT RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR THAT DATE.

4. PLEASE ALSO ADVISE BRONX D.A.'S OFFICE THAT BROTHER OF DECEASED IS AWARE THAT MS. KABASHI IS KEY WITNESS IN TRIAL, AS PRESUMABLY, ARE OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS. WE HAVE, HOWEVER, NOT CONFIRMED PRECISE REASON FOR TRIP TO U.S. ON PART OF MS. KABASHI.

5. MS. KABASHI ALSO RAISED FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A) IS MS. KABASHI TO COME ALONE OR TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY CHILDREN (CABLE SHE RECEIVED FROM BRONX DA MADE NO MENTION OF CHILDREN, THOUGH WE HAD EARLIER PASSED ON DA ADVICE THAT CHILDREN SHOULD ACCOMPANY HER TO U.S.)

B) IF CHILDREN ARE INCLUDED, WILL D.A. ALSO PURCHASE TICKET FOR MS. KABASHI'S MOTHER TO CARE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN IN U.S. WHILE MS. KABASHI IS INVOLVED WITH TRIAL? (IF CHILDREN DO NOT ACCOMPANY, THEN MS. KABASHI'S MOTHER WOULD REMAIN IN YUGOSLAVIA TO CARE FOR THEM HERE). MS. KABASHI'S MOTHER, FAZE KABASHI, HAS ALREADY BEEN ISSUED A VISA.

6. IN VIEW OF COOPERATION EVIDENCED BY KABASHI FAMILY AND EXPENSE INCURRED IN TRANSPORTING 7 FAMILY MEMBERS ON 20 HR ROUND TRIP BY TRAIN TO EMBASSY, DEPARTMENT MAY WANT TO EXPLORE WITH BRONX DA POSSIBILITY OF REIMBURSING KABASHI
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FAMILY FOR EXPENSES ASSUMED IN YUGOSLAVIA IN CONNECTION WITH MS. KABASHI'S APPEARANCE AT TRIAL.

7. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST RE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MS. KABASHI. TELEPHONE NUMBER OF U.S. CONTACTS FOLLOW.

BRADFORD BROWN: (212) 590-2278 (OFFICE)
(212) 874-0254 (HOME)

PETAR VATAJ: (212) 220-5211 (OFFICE)
EAGLEBURGER

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